

**Open Minutes
Missouri Dental Board**

AD HOC COMMITTEE – DENTAL ASSISTING

**Telephone Conference Call
August 25, 2003 7:00 p.m.**

**Division of Professional Registration
3605 Missouri Boulevard
Jefferson City, Missouri**

The open telephone conference call meeting of the Missouri Dental Board, Ad Hoc Committee on Dental Assisting, was called to order by Dr. Rodney Beard, Chairperson, at approximately 7:05 p.m. on Monday, August 25, 2003. The conference call meeting originated from the Dental Board Office at the Division of Professional Registration, 3605 Missouri Boulevard, Jefferson City, Missouri.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Rodney L. Beard, Chairperson
Ms. Maxine Thompson, Member
Dr. Guy Deyton, President, Missouri Dental Association
Ms. Debra Henderson, R.D.H., President, Missouri Dental Hygienists' Association
Ms. Lee Ann Turnbaugh, President, Missouri Dental Assistants Association

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Patricia Lepp, R.D.H., President
Larry W. Jackson, D.D.S., Member

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sharlene Rimiller, Executive Director
Vickie Coffman, Executive I

GUESTS PRESENT:

Dr. Jacob Lippert, Executive Director, Missouri Dental Association
Mary Lou Young, CDA, Missouri Dental Assistants Association
Diann Bomkamp, R.D.H., Missouri Dental Hygienists' Association
Debra Gerecke, R.D.H. Missouri Advisory Commission for Dental Hygienists

To better track the order in which items were taken up on the agenda, each item in the minutes will be listed in the order it was discussed in the meeting.

EDUCATING DENTAL ASSISTANTS

The Committee considered suggestions to implement some type of program for ways the Board could educate dental assistants on the Missouri Dental Board's statutes and regulations. Debra Gerecke noted that the Advisory Commission had come up with several different suggestions. Those suggestions included: 1) adding a question to the dentist renewal asking the dentist if s/he has educated his/her dental assistants on the Missouri Dental Board's laws and rules; 2) sending a 10 question voluntary test to each dentist with his/her renewal application for dental assistants to complete and return to the Board office; 3) have the Board/Commission members or staff visit Dental Assisting Schools; and 4) a Board presentation of the laws and rules given at the courses for the Basic Skills exam. Ms. Lepp stated that she felt it might require a combination of more than one of the suggestions in order to reach the majority of the dental assistants. Diann Bomkamp suggested that a question be included on the dentist renewal application asking if the dentist has communicated with his/her staff about the current statutes and regulations regarding what dental hygienists and dental assistants can legally perform in Missouri. Dr. Beard suggested that the Board require that the dentist have every dental assistant that s/he employs sign a document when hired that states s/he has made available to the dental assistant a copy of the laws and rules. The dentist would be required to keep a copy of the signed document on file for at least three (3) years after the assistant leaves his/her employment. The Board would need to supply the dentist with at least two (2) copies of the current law book. Dr. Deyton stated that the Board should only have to supply the statutes and rules pertaining to dental assistants and the Board could make that information available on their web site. There was some discussion on whether all the statutes and rules should be made available or just those statutes and rules that pertain to dental assistants. There were also concerns raised on how the Board can be assured that the dentists will have their assistants sign the document. Dr. Beard suggested that when the Board does its CE audits the licensee could be asked to provide the Board with a copy of their documentation that their assistants were required to sign. Mrs. Rimiller suggested that a combination of Dr. Beard's suggestion and a question on the renewal application asking if the dentist has reviewed the laws and rules with his/her dental assistants could be considered. The question would have to be voluntary without a change in the rule. It was acknowledged that an amendment would need to be made to the Board's rules to implement Dr. Beard's suggestion. Ms. Mary Lou Young asked to go on record as still in favor of registration for all dental assistants. After further discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee to take Dr. Beard's suggestion, together with adding a question to the dentist renewal application, to the Board for approval and the Board can decide if it wants to refer the matter to the PRC to write the rule and develop the form.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further open business to be brought before the Committee at this time, a motion was made by Dr. Jackson and seconded by Ms. Thompson that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Coffman

Sharlene Rimiller, Executive Director

Approved by Board on: _____.